

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIE-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 EB-07 OMB-01 COME-00

TRSE-00 /067 R

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APPROVED BY AF:WESCHAUF"LE, JR.
AF/W:JKBISHOP

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O P 060058Z APR 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
INFO AMCONSUL KADUNA PRIORITY
AMCONSUL IBADAN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 081929

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, BBAK, NI

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S TRIP, LOCKHEED, AND AMERICAN INTER-
NATIONAL INSURANCE CO.

SUMMARY: THE NIGERIAN AMBASSADOR VISITED THE DEPARTMENT
IMMEDIATELY ON HIS RETURN FROM NIGERIA, PRIMARILY IN ORDER
TO REQUEST THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER NOT VISIT NIGERIA AT
THIS TIME, BUT ALSO IN ORDER TO FOLLOW UP ON FMG'S REQUEST
FOR INFORMATION ON LOCKHEED. END SUMMARY.

1. NIGERIAN AMBASSADOR CALLED ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY
SCHAUFLE APRIL 5 UNDER INSTRUCTIONS OF HIS GOVERNMENT TO
REQUEST THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER NOT VISIT NIGERIA AT
THIS TIME. HE GAVE TWO REASONS:

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--THAT MORE TREASON TRIALS ARE EXPECTED TO TAKE PLACE IN THE LATTER HALF OF APRIL, AND COMMISSIONER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS GARBA CANNOT BE CERTAIN THE SECRETARY WOULD BE TOTALLY FREE FROM EMBARRASSMENT.

--THAT THE SECURITY SITUATION IS A VERY TOUCHY PUBLIC ISSUE, AND HIS PRESENCE AT THIS TIME WOULD RUN TOO MANY RISKS.

2. SANU ADDED THAT THE FMG HAD LOOKED FORWARD TO THE SECRETARY'S VISIT AS HELPING TO IMPROVE US-NIGERIAN RELATIONS AND WISHED IT COULD TAKE PLACE AT A LATER DATE. HE EXPRESSED THE WISH THAT MR. ROBINSON COULD RESCHEDULE THE VISIT HE WAS TO HAVE MADE FEBRUARY 23-25 AND BE AN OFFICIAL GUEST OF THE FMG AT AN EARLY DATE, PERHAPS AFTER HE DEPARTS UNCTAD IV.

3. SANU WAS NOT AWARE THAT YOU APPROACHED MEA ABOUT THE VISIT ON SATURDAY AND HAD ALREADY RECEIVED THE NEGATIVE DECISION. SCHAUFELT TOLD HIM THAT THE DECISION HAD BEEN DISCUSSED WITH THE SECRETARY AND THAT HE UNDERSTOOD. SCHAUFELT SAID IT WAS VERY IMPORTANT FOR THE FMG TO AGREE HOW WE WOULD ANSWER THE PRESS WHEN THE SECRETARY'S ITINERARY IS ANNOUNCED WITHOUT NIGERIA. HE AGREED THAT WE COULD SAY NIGERIA HAD BEEN DROPPED AT FMG REQUEST BECAUSE OF OTHER COMMITMENTS OF NIGERIAN LEADERS, BUT HE IS CLEARING OUR SPECIFIC LANGUAGE WITH LAGOS (SEPTEL).

4. SANU DELIVERED LETTER DATED MARCH 16 FROM COMMISSIONER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS GARBA TO THE SECRETARY REQUESTING INFORMATION ON LOCKHEED AIRCRAFT CORP. POSSESSED BY THE SEC AND SENATE WHICH PERTAINS TO NIGERIA. HE COMMENTED THAT THE FMG HAD EMPOWERED HIM TO SIGN A BILATERAL AGREEMENT COVERING THE EXCHANGE OF SUCH INFORMATION. OUR DRAFT AGREEMENT WAS OK TO NIGERIA EXCEPT FOR A FEW LEGAL DETAILS WHICH HE WOULD DISCUSS WITH US LATER IN THE WEEK.

5. DEPOFF RAISED QUESTION OF AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY TAKEOVER WITH SANU WHO WAS FAMILIAR WITH FMG POLICY ON INSURANCE COMPANIES BUT NOT THIS CONFIDENTIAL

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PARTICULAR CASE. HE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT SATISFACTORY LEVEL OF COMPENSATION COULD STILL BE ARRANGED AND AGREED TO LOOK INTO THE MATTER ASAP.

6. SANU ASKED DEPOFFS TO CONVEY HIS APOLOGIES TO AMBASSADOR EASUM FOR NOT BEING ABLE TO SEE HIM DURING LATTER PART OF HIS STAY IN LAGOS BECAUSE GARBA'S RETURN FROM LONDON INTERFERRED.

7. FYI, SANU IS SPEAKING TO LUNCHEON MEETING OF
NIGERIAN-AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN NEW YORK
(THE FIRST MEETING SINCE JUNE) ON APRIL 6 AND TO THE
DEPARTMENT'S CURRENT SCHOLAR-DIPLOMAT SEMINAR ON
APRIL 8.

KISSINGER

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